

10/587162

Attorney Docket No. 2004P00161WOUS

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AP20 Rec'd PGT/PTO 24 JUL 2006

In re Application of: Johann Magg et al
Application Number: Unassigned
Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith
Group Art Unit:
Examiner:
Title: COFFEE MACHINE COMPRISING A HEIGHT-
ADJUSTABLE SPOUT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98, I am submitting a completed "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS" (*Form PTO/SB/08A*) with patents and/or publications as delineated therein attached.

EP 1 199 016 discloses that the machine (1) is used for dispensing drinks. It has a front panel (5) at an angle alpha to the vertical which is adjustable in the direction of the arrows (A) to position the outlets (8,9) for steam and hot water at a suitable height. The outlets (10) for prepared drinks are independently height adjustable (B).

CH 636 254 discloses that the device comprises a cylinder (8) to which the hot water is sent. A piston (10) slides inside the cylinder (8) and moves a lever (11) acting on the probe (17). The lever (11) is lowered and stopped in different positions corresponding to different levels of coffee in the cup, by means of the manually adjustable screws (22, 22', 22"). The pipe communicating with said cylinder (8) is also in communication (6) with the spray plate (23) positioned above the coffee powder (9). When the coffee delivered into the cup reaches the intended level (D-E), the contact between the electrode (19) and the second electrode (19') of the probe electronically causes, by reversing the position of the solenoid valve (4), delivery to stop and the piston (10) to return to its initial position, the probe (17, 19, 19') being simultaneously pulled back up by the spring (12).

DE 37 42 930 discloses that a coffee machine has a coffee outlet (1) and a standing area (4) for accommodating vessels which receive the coffee. The coffee outlet (1) comprises

a first part (2) which is fixed with respect to the coffee machine and has a first outlet opening (6). A second part (7), displaceable like a slide, of the coffee outlet is arranged on said fixed part (2) in such a way that the coffee can, selectively, flow directly out of the first part (2) or into the second part (7). A pivotable, third part (10), which can be pivoted towards the coffee machine, is arranged on the second part (7). As a result, it is possible, selectively, to fill one or two cups, one or two small coffee pots or a large coffee pot. By means of the slide-like displaceability and the possibility of pivoting the third part (10) towards the coffee machine, soiling due to dripping-out coffee-beverage remains is avoided.

FR 2 489 130 a coffee-making machine, in particular an espresso machine, having an outflow channel for the prepared coffee, which leads to two outlets and distributes the coffee over the latter. In this case, the prepared coffee is to be distributed as evenly as possible over the two outlets, and in doing so the foam formed during the coffee preparation is to flow out with it in an unimpeded manner. It is proposed that the outflow channel (26; 426; 626) has a constriction (38; 438; 638), formed by side walls (28, 30; 428, 430), and a transverse wall (44, 46, 48; 444; 644) which divides the jet formed by the constriction into two partial streams to the outlets (40, 42; 640, 642).

DE 80 23 472 discloses a coffee machine, specifically an espresso machine, with an outlet channel for the prepared coffee which terminates in two outlets, between which the coffee is divided, characterized in that the outlet channel (26) incorporates a bottleneck (38) formed by the side walls (28 to 34), and a lateral partition (44, 46, 48) which divides the stream formed by the bottleneck into two partial streams which are then routed to the outlets (40, 42).

DE 298 10 291 discloses a drinks dispenser, specifically a coffee or espresso machine, with an outlet device for the beverage and a cup holder, in which the vertical distance between the outlet and the cup holder is continuously adjustable and can be permanently fixed by means of a locking device, which operates by the interaction of one moving element with one stationary element of the drinks dispenser, characterized in that the moving element or the stationary element incorporates at least one flat strip of a ferromagnetic material (16; 17; 28; 38), arranged substantially in the vertical plane, which interacts with at least one magnet arranged on the said stationary element or moving element.

If no translation of pertinent portions of any foreign language patents or publications mentioned within the "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY

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APPLICANTS" is included with the aforementioned copies of those applications, patents and/or publications, it is because no existing translation is readily available to the Applicants. As per the Notice in 1273 OG 55 (August 5, 2003) no copies of any above-mentioned US patents and US patent application publications are submitted for this application which was filed after June 30, 2003.

Respectfully submitted



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July 24, 2006

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Sheet	1	of	2
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁸
		Country Code ² -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ³ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		EP 1 199 016	04/24/2002	Frank Goeltenboth et al		
		CH 636 254	05/31/1983	Cesare Balestrini et al		
		DE 37 42 930	10/06/1988	Johann Volgger		
		FR 2 489 130	04/22/1982	Udo Leuschner et al		
		DE 80 23 472	02/18/1982	Bosch-Siemens Hausge		
		DE 298 10 291	09/17/1998	EUGSTER FRISMAG A		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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		Country Code ³ *Number ⁴ *Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		International Search Report PCT/EP2005/050325				✓

Date
Considered

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